



Rajasthan on High Alert Amid Bharat Bandh | Rajasthan | 22 Aug 2024

Why in News?

- Rajasthan is on **high alert** following a **Bharat Bandh** organized by the **Reservation Bachao Sangharsh Samiti**.
- The protest is in response to the [Supreme Court's ruling](#) that requires states to identify and exclude the '[creamy layer](#)' among [Scheduled Castes \(SC\)](#) and [Scheduled Tribes \(ST\)](#) from reservation benefits.

Key Points

- The **Supreme Court** ruled that states are constitutionally allowed to **sub-classify SCs and STs** based on varying levels of backwardness.
- The **seven-judge Bench** ruled that states can now **sub-classify SCs** within the **15% reservation quota** to provide better support for the most disadvantaged groups.
- The **Supreme Court** has ruled that the '**creamy layer**' principle, previously applied only to [Other Backward Classes \(OBCs\)](#) (as highlighted in **Indra Sawhney Case**), should now also be applied to **SCs and STs**.
- This means states must **identify and exclude** the **creamy layer** within **SCs and STs** from reservation benefits.

Constitutionality of Organising a Bandh, Hartal, or Similar Protests

- **Article 19(1)(c)** of the Indian Constitution gives citizens the **fundamental right to form associations or unions**.
- **Article 19** restricts the state's power in relation to the rights of its citizens, particularly the **right to freedom of speech and expression**.
- **Article 19(1)(a)** grants citizens the right to freedom of speech and expression, which includes **expressing opinions, beliefs, and convictions through various means**.
 - **Demonstrations**, as visible representations of ideas, are protected under freedom of speech, provided they are **non-violent and orderly**.
 - **Strikes** are not included within the **scope of freedom of speech**.
- **Article 19** does not explicitly grant citizens the fundamental right to organise **hartals, bandhs, or chakkajams**.

RECPDCL Transfers Rajasthan Power Project to Apraava | Rajasthan | 22 Aug 2024

Why in News?

REC Power Development and Consultancy Limited (RECPDCL), a subsidiary of [REC Limited](#), handed over the **Rajasthan IV-A Power Transmission project** to **Apraava Energy Private Limited (AEPL)**.

- The project is designed to facilitate the evacuation of power from the **Rajasthan Renewable Energy Zone Phase IV**, covering the **Jaisalmer** and **Barmer complexes**.

Key Points

- **Rajasthan IV-A Power Transmission Project:**

- **Project Scope:**

- Construction of a **765/400 kV, 4x1500 MVA** pooling station.
- Construction of a **400/220 kV, 5x500 MVA** pooling station.
- Laying of **184.56 kilometers** of **400 kV transmission line**.

- **Timeline:** The project is expected to be completed within **two years**.

- **Capacity Addition:** The project will significantly enhance the **region's power transmission capacity**.

- **Impact:** The project will support Rajasthan's renewable energy objectives.

- **Significance:** This handover is part of the broader goal to achieve **500 GW of installed electricity capacity** from **non-fossil fuel sources** by **2030**.

- **Type of Model:** The project will be developed on a [Build, Own, Operate, and Transfer \(BOOT\)](#) basis. This development is a significant step in enhancing power transmission infrastructure in the region.

- **BOOT model** is one type of **operator model** used in project management. In this model actual investor delegates the building, operation and maintenance of a project to another company for a limited time.

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Renewable Energy



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Targets

- Achieve net zero carbon emissions by **2070**
- Produce **5 Million Tonnes** of green hydrogen by **2030**
- **57** Solar Parks aggregate capacity of **39.28 GW**
- Wind Energy offshore target of **30 GW** by **2030**

Installed capacity of renewable sources of energy in India

